

Town of Oriental
Town Board Meeting
September 2, 2014

The Town of Oriental Town Board of Commissioners held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at 7:00 PM. Mayor Sage determined a quorum to be present, and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Sage, Commissioners Overcash, White, Venturi, Summers, Town Attorney Scott Davis, Town Manager Miller, Police Chief Moore, Deputy Town Clerk Beyer and public

ABSENT: Commissioner Winfrey

The Agenda and Consent Agenda were presented to the Board for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Overcash seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

MOTION: Commissioner White made a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the following sets of Minutes: July 31, 2014 Workshop Meeting, August 5, 2014 Town Board Meeting, August 12, 2014 Special Town Board Meeting. Commissioner Overcash seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Sage then opened the floor to Public Comment, hearing from Mr. Holmes Hansel first. Mr. Holmes spoke against the commercial fishing boats using the free Town Docks.

There being no further public comment, the floor was closed.

A Budget Amendment was submitted for Board approval concerning several large equipment purchases for the Water Plant, and also the purchase of new fittings for inventory. This money will be taken out of Line Item 52100, Depreciation.

MOTION: Commissioner Venturi made a Motion to approve the Budget Amendment as presented. Commissioner Summers seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Several amendments to General Ordinance, Chapter K, Water Service were presented to the Board for adoption: Article X, Bill Collection, Article XII, Voluntary Suspension of Service, Article XIV, Section 3, Special Meter Reading, and an amendment to Chapter S, Town Rates and Fees, Article I, Water Rates.

MOTION: Commissioner Summers made a Motion to approve the amendments to the General Ordinance, Chapters K and S as presented. Commissioner Overcash seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

The RFP for Phase I Debris Removal was put out for bid, and the winning bidder was Pamlico Tree Service.

MOTION: Commissioner White made a Motion to approve the awarding of the Phase I Debris Removal contract to Pamlico Tree Care. Commissioner Overcash seconded. Discussion followed. Motion passed 4-0.

Town Manager Miller presented her Manager's report. The auditor's have finished with their annual audit, and have left, seeming satisfied with their findings. The Ol' Front Porch Music Festival will be held September 13, 2014 on porches throughout the village. A building permit has been secured to begin work on the old net house on South Avenue. Due to significant issues with the softener at the plant, there may be another Budget Amendment to cover repairs or replacement. There will be a change in the water bill cycle, with the bills being due by the 25th of the month, and being considered late and subject to disconnect by the 5th of the following month. Town Manager Miller introduced the newest employee of the Public Works Department, Austin Williams. She also read a letter of thanks from the Neuse Riverkeepers for the Town's financial assistance towards the spill boom purchase.

Mayor Sage read a Proclamation declaring the week of September 17, 2014 as Constitution Week. A copy of this Proclamation is attached hereto and incorporated herein these Minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Overcash made a Motion to approve the Constitution Week Proclamation as presented. Commissioner Summers seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Police Chief Moore presented his monthly report, reporting that there were several vehicle break-ins in the Village. All of the vehicles were left unlocked, so he encouraged residents to lock their vehicles, even when they are parked in driveways. Also have parking areas well lit and secure.

The Planning Board made a recommendation to the Town Board to not waive setbacks for areas designated as Parks. According to the Town Attorney, a special subset of rules can be created that apply to Parks.

Commissioner Summers read an essay concerning Harbor and Town Docks.

Town Attorney Scott Davis presented a report concerning the Cox appeal, stating that the Court of Appeals dismissed the first matter; it is hopeful that the second matter will also be dismissed. The next court date is calendared for the end of November, 2014.

MOTION: Commissioner White made a Motion to go into Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3), Attorney-Client Privilege, Cox vs. Town of Oriental. Commissioner Overcash seconded. Motion passed 4-0. The Board went into Closed Session at 7:45 PM.

The Board came back into Open Session at 8:04 PM.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. Commissioner Summers made a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Overcash seconded, Motion passed 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Bill Sage, Mayor

Diane H. Miller, Town Manager